

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 00796 070443Z  
ACTION IO-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-10 ONY-00 /017 W  
-----001211 070452Z /15 R

P 070404Z MAR 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9899  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 00796

FODAG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, FAO, UN, WFP

SUBJECT: DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WORLD FOOD PROGRAM  
(WFP)

REF: (A) STATE 42013; (B) USUN 605; (C) ROME 3743;  
(D) CANBERRA 1528; (E) OTTAWA 1047

1. DURING CALL ON SYG MARCH 3 TO DISCUSS VARIOUS PERSON-  
NEL MATTERS, AMBASSADOR LEONARD CONVEYED TO WALDHEIM US  
OPPOSITION TO BRITO APPOINTMENT AS DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIREC-  
TOR OF WFP, MAKING POINTS CONTAINED REF (A) BUT EMPHASIZ-  
ING THAT US PREPARED TO SUPPORT WELL-QUALIFIED NOMINEE  
FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRY. WALDHEIM RESPONDED THAT, HAVING  
BEEN ALERTED BY RAFEEUDDIN AHMED OF US VIEWS CONCERNING  
BRITO CONVEYED TO AHMED FEBRUARY 18 BY AMBASSADOR WELLS,  
HE HAD RAISED THE MATTER WITH VOGEL. SYG'S IMPRESSION WAS  
THAT VOGEL VERY MUCH INSISTED ON HAVING BRITO AND SPECU-  
LATED THAT BRITO WAS PROBABLY REALLY SAOUMA'S CANDIDATE.  
WALDHEIM SAID THAT, SINCE HE DID NOT KNOW BRITO  
PERSONALLY, IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO HAVE A FIRST-HAND  
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JUDGMENT ON THE MATTER. HE HAD, THEREFORE, ASKED VOGEL TO  
DISCUSS THE PROBLEM AGAIN WITH THE US BEFORE A FINAL DE-  
CISION WAS MADE. IN THIS CONNECTION, WALDHEIM NOTED THAT  
VOGEL, IN MENTIONING THE FACT THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
MAYNES HAD RAISED THE QUESTION WITH HIM IN WASHINGTON, HAD  
STATED THAT "NO CONCRETE BASIS" HAD BEEN GIVEN TO EXPLAIN  
US OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSED APPOINTMENT. AHMED, WHO WAS

PRESENT, OBSERVED THAT BRITO HAD REPUTATION OF BEING A HARD WORKER AND THAT IT WAS EXPECTED THAT HE WOULD LEARN FAST. AHMED ALSO OBSERVED THAT NOMINATIONS FROM ROME REQUIRING THE SYG'S CONCURRENCE WERE NORMALLY GIVEN ROUTINE APPROVAL IN NEW YORK.

2. COMMENT: WHILE AMBASSADOR LEONARD'S REMARKS MADE CLEAR THAT US DID NOT REGARD BRITO APPOINTMENT AS A ROUTINE MATTER, OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT WALDHEIM IS NOT ANXIOUS TO CROSS SWORDS WITH SAOUMA AND VOGEL ON THIS ONE. WALDHEIM'S COMMENT THAT HE HAD ASKED VOGEL TO DISCUSS IT AGAIN WITH THE US INDICATES HE WOULD MUCH PREFER TO HAVE THIS ISSUE THRASHED OUT IN ROME. IT IS NOT CLEAR TO US WHETHER SECOND GO-AROUND BETWEEN VOGEL AND BAKER REPORTED REF (C) CONSTITUTED THE FURTHER DISCUSSION WHICH WALDHEIM REQUESTED VOGEL TO UNDERTAKE. IF NOT, PERHAPS FURTHER PRESSURE COULD BE PUT ON VOGEL BY INFORMING HIM OF US APPROACH TO WALDHEIM AND BUILDING ON WALDHEIM'S DESIRE THAT MATTER BE LOOKED AT AGAIN CAREFULLY BETWEEN VOGEL AND THE US. IT WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL IF FURTHER APPROACH TO VOGEL COULD BE SUPPORTED BY OTTAWA AND CANBERRA. YOUNG

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978USUNN00796  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 42013, 78 USUN NEW YORK 605, 78 ROME 3743, 78 CANBERRA 1528, 78 OTTAWA 1047  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Subject:** DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WORLD FOOD PROGRAM (WFP)  
**TAGS:** AORG, FAO, UN, (BRITO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/fcda97cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014